

Amendments to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the Drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). Specifically, the Examiner requested that certain elements specified in the claims be shown in the Figures. Regarding the element “rf signals”, Applicant has amended the specification (paragraph [0022]) and Figure 1 to include a reference numeral (111) for the rf signal (see Attached Replacement Sheet and Annotated Sheet).

Claims 36-39 are cancelled by the present amendment which obviates the Examiner’s concerns with respect to the following elements: hall call acknowledgement lamp, sound device (gong), and position indicator. With respect to the solar energy conversion device and the mechanical/electrical conversion device, Applicant maintains that such feature is adequately depicted as element 614 in Figure 6 (alternate power source) and requests the Examiner to reconsider this objection with respect to those elements.

Remarks and Argument

Claims 1-33, 35, and 40-47 are pending in the present Application. By the present Amendment, claims 34 and 36-39 are cancelled. Claim 34 was cancelled as it is duplicative of claim 33. Claims 36-39 were cancelled and Claim 44 is amended herein in response to the Examiner's Drawing objections. New claim 47 is added by the present amendment incorporating the limitations of original claim 43 and all intervening claims in response to the Examiner's indication that such a claim would be allowable.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-3, 6-13, 16-22, 25, 29-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herkel et al. (6173814) and Gozzo et al. (6467585). The Examiner notes and maintains that Herkel teaches in figures 1-4, an elevator safety system that includes a controller 20, 40 and hoistway 70 with doors 1-3 of elevator cabs utilizes nodes 91-96 and transmission bus 4 to send both command data and safety sensors, contacts and switches 31-33, 61-63... data to the elevator control 40. The Examiner notes that Herkel et al does not illustrate transceivers per se but that Gozzo et al teaches that for improved safety chain response and location of specific failure as well as improved installation without wiring, it is advantageous to provide transceivers 12, 22, 24, 26, 30, 32 to relay both control and safety chain data to a controller instead of the wiring as illustrated in Herkel et al which is incorporated by reference. The Examiner maintains that "to utilize transceivers and a wireless data transmission would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art to improve safety chain data and utilize less wiring."

Under MPEP 2143.03, in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the prior art reference or combination of references must teach or suggest all of the limitations of a claim. A *prima facie* case of obviousness also requires that there be some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to modify the references either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. MPEP 2143.01. Motivation to combine or modify will be absent if modifying a cited reference will change the principle of operation taught in the reference or render it unsuitable for its intended purpose.

MPEP 2143.01. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record fails to render present claims 1-3, 6-13, 16-22, 25, 29-39 obvious.

Applicant submits that the art of record fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations recited in independent claims 1, 11, 21, and 29 and dependent claims 2-3, 6-10, 12-13, 16-20, 22, 25, 30-33, and 35 in accordance with MPEP 2143.03. Herkel et al. is clearly directed to an electronic safety chain system. Gozzo et al. teaches a wireless safety chain for an elevator. In contrast, the independent claims 1, 11, 21 and 29 of the present invention are neither directed to an electronic safety chain nor a wireless safety chain. Rather, the independent claims of the present application are directed to an elevator signal wiring and communication system. The system of the present invention in contrast obtains its power from a conventional safety chain and uses the conventional wiring to transmit the communication to transceivers. No safety related signals are transmitted to or from the transceivers. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record fails to render the cited claims obvious in accordance with MPEP 2143, and respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 4, 14, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herkel et al. and Gozzo et al. further in view of Ayano et al. (2004/0026177). The Examiner notes that Herkel et al. and Gozzo et al. do not illustrate inductive data transmission but notes that Ayano et al. teaches that for improved data transmission without additional wiring, inductive data transmission can be utilized. The Examiner maintains that to utilize an inductive type data transmission would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to utilize less wiring.

However, Applicant maintains that Ayano et al. teaches inductive transmission of data where "The transmitter-receiver and the resin-coated rope are linked by a magnetic field to form an electric device having the characteristics of a transformer." (Page 4 Paragraph 49). The method of communication claimed in the present invention is by radio frequency. Also, the safety chain wiring is used as a form of wave guide or antenna system in the present invention and induction is not employed. As such, in light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record fails to render the cited claims obvious in accordance with MPEP 2143, and respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn as well.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 5, 15, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herkel et al. and Gozzo et al. further in view of Schwan (5892411). The Examiner notes that Herkel et al. and Gozzo et al. do not illustrate capacitive coupling but do state that any type of wireless transmission can be utilized. The Examiner notes that Schwan et al teaches that the use of capacitive coupling for data transmission is known within the use of elevators and that to utilize a known wireless data transmission which is stated that any type may be used, would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Applicant believes that the Examiner's citation of Schwan is inappropriate since this reference teaches capacitive coupling for data transmission. The present application does not use or contemplate such capacitive coupling but rather incorporates the usage of radio frequency (RF). Schwan in the summary of the invention states that "data transmission that is a contact-free manner". In contrast, in the present invention, data is transmitted in a manner that is *not* contact-free. Also, Schwan describes the transmitting and receiving modules as being "moveable relative to one another". In the present invention, these modules are fixed relative to one another. With respect to usage in an elevator, in column 4 Schwan states that "this device is suitable ----for elevators and similar devices in which during a displacement movement data transmission is needed." In contrast, no displacement is described or contemplated by the present invention. As such, in light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record fails to render the cited claims obvious in accordance with MPEP 2143, and respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn as well.

Finally, the Examiner has also rejected claims 26-28, 40-42, and 44-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herkel et al. and Gozzo et al. further in view of view of Schuster (6412604). The Examiner notes that Herkel et al and Gozzo et al do not illustrate the power supply system for the hall units but that Schuster teaches that for ease of charging hall units in a wireless environment, a contactless type power transmission may be utilized. The Examiner maintains that to utilize the charging of Schuster would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art to improve the ease of charging by

using a contactless system. However, Applicant is not claiming the use of charging by using a contactless system in and of itself. Under § 103, it is essential to consider all elements of the claimed invention. As such, when considering all elements of the claims, Applicant respectfully maintains that these rejections be withdrawn as well.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant adds new Claim 47 by the present amendment incorporating the limitations of original claim 43 and all intervening claims in response to the Examiner's indication that such a claim would be allowable.


Conclusion:

Applicant has made an earnest effort to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections and believes that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. The applicant solicits the allowance of these Claims.

If, however, the Examiner should for any reason consider this application not to be in condition for allowance he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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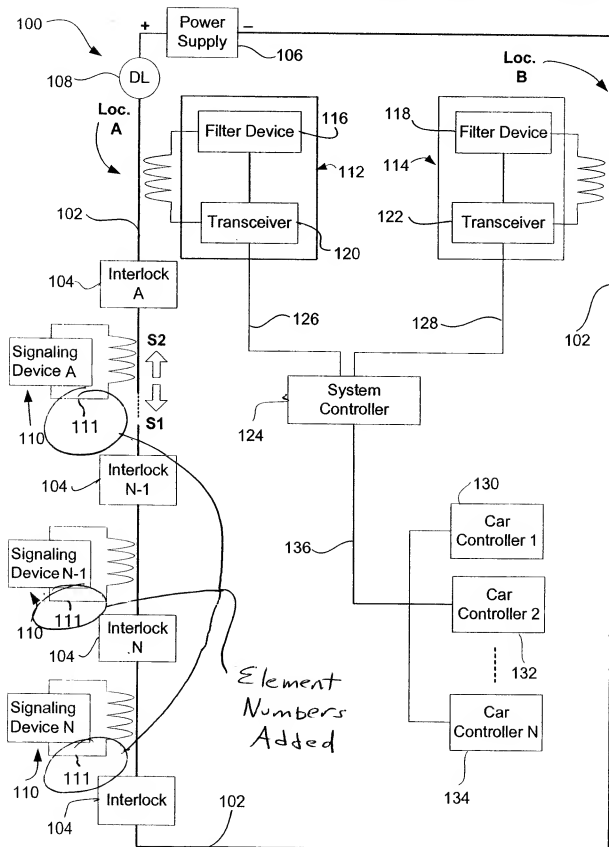


FIG. 1